INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7   G06F19/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7   G06F   G06T

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, INSPEC, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	MCNITT-GRAY M F ET AL: "A PATTERN CLASSIFICATION APPROACH TO CHARACTERIZING SOLITARY PULMONARY NODULES IMAGED ON HIGH RESOLUTION CT: PRELIMINARY RESULTS" MEDICAL PHYSICS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS. NEW YORK, US, vol. 26, no. 6, June 1999 (1999-06), pages 880-888, XP000898641 ISSN: 0094-2405 page 880, left-hand column, line 19 - right-hand column, line 4 -/--	1,7,10

| X | Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. | | X | Patent family members are listed in annex. |

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

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"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
17 December 2004	13/01/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	MITANI Y ET AL: "Combining the Gabor and histogram features for classifying diffuse lung opacities in thin-section computed tomography" PATTERN RECOGNITION, 2002. PROCEEDINGS. 16TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON QUEBEC CITY, QUE., CANADA 11-15 AUG. 2002, LOS ALAMITOS, CA, USA,IEEE COMPUT. SOC, US, 11 August 2002 (2002-08-11), pages 53-56, XP010613273 ISBN: 0-7695-1695-X abstract page 53, left-hand column, line 21 - line 29	1,7,10
A	KAWATA Y ET AL: "COMPUTERIZED ANALYSIS OF 3-D PULMONAY NODULE IMAGES IN SURROUNDING AND INTERNAL STRUCTURE FEATURE SPACES" PROCEEDINGS 2001 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IMAGE PROCESSING. ICIP 2001. THESSALONIKI, GREECE, OCT. 7 - 10, 2001, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON IMAGE PROCESSING, NEW YORK, NY : IEEE, US, vol. VOL. 2 OF 3. CONF. 8, 7 October 2001 (2001-10-07), pages 889-892, XP001045716 ISBN: 0-7803-6725-1 page 889, right-hand column, paragraph 2.2	4
A	TANINO M ET AL: "A detection method of ground glass opacities in chest X-ray CT images using automatic clustering techniques" PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPIE - THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR OPTICAL ENGINEERING SPIE-INT. SOC. OPT. ENG USA, vol. 5032, February 2003 (2003-02), pages 1728-1737, XP002310231 ISSN: 0277-786X abstract; figure 4	1
A	JIANZHONG QIAN ET AL: "Knowledge-based automatic detection of multitype lung nodules from multidetector CT studies" PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPIE - THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR OPTICAL ENGINEERING SPIE-INT. SOC. OPT. ENG USA, vol. 4684, February 2002 (2002-02), pages 689-697, XP008022812 ISSN: 0277-786X page 691, paragraph 2.2	1
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	WO 01/78005 A (CORNELL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, INC.) 18 October 2001 (2001-10-18) page 37, line 25 - page 38, line 2 ―――――	1

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